

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 14. (Canceled).

15. (Original) A method of forming a sole for footwear, comprising the steps of:

forming at least one inner sole; and

at least partially impregnating a textile material into at least a portion of at least one surface of the at least one inner sole to form an outer sole thereof.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the at least one inner sole is formed of a rubber material.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the at least one inner sole is formed of a thermoplastic material.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the impregnating step includes the substep of applying at least one of heat and pressure to at least partially melt the at least one surface of the at least one inner sole to at least partially impregnate the textile material therein.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 15, further comprising a step of conforming a shape of the textile material to a shape of the at least one inner sole.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 15, further comprising a step of removing excess textile material after the impregnating step.

21. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the inner sole forming step includes a substep of delivering a material into a mold.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the method includes a step of providing the textile material in the mold before the delivering step.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the method includes a step of providing the textile material in the mold after the delivering step.

24. (New) A method of forming a sole for footwear, comprising the steps of:
forming at least one inner sole;

forming at least one outer sole including at least partially impregnating a rubber-free, woven natural textile material into at least a portion of at least one surface of the at least one inner sole so that only the textile material is exposed on an outer surface of the sole corresponding to the portion, the outer surface corresponding to an exterior peripheral face of the sole, the portion into which the outer sole is partially impregnated corresponding to less than the entire at least one surface of the inner sole so that only the inner sole is exposed on the outer surface of the sole corresponding to a remaining portion of the sole.

25. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein the inner sole includes at least one of a rubber material and a thermoplastic rubber material.

26. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein the outer sole includes a blend of woven fibers.

27. (New) A method of forming a footwear article, comprising the steps of:
forming at least one inner sole;

forming at least one outer sole including at least partially impregnating a rubber-free, woven natural textile material into at least a portion of at least one surface of the at least one inner sole so that only the textile material is exposed on an outer surface of a sole of the footwear article corresponding to the portion, the outer surface corresponding to an exterior peripheral face of the sole, the portion into which the outer sole is partially impregnated corresponding to less than the entire at least one surface of the inner sole so that only the inner sole is exposed on the outer surface of the sole corresponding to a remaining portion of the sole.

28. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the inner sole includes at least one of a rubber material and a thermoplastic rubber material.

29. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the outer sole includes a blend of woven fibers.